

March 2007

**APPENDIX J**

**PROTOCOLS FOR JUVENILE MONITORING FACILITY OPERATIONS  
AT BONNEVILLE DAM**

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- 1. General.** The following protocols will be implemented by agencies conducting research in the Bonneville Dam Powerhouse Two Juvenile Monitoring Facility. These protocols were coordinated with fish agencies and tribes through the Fish Passage Operation and Maintenance Coordination Team (FPOM). The purpose of these protocols is to provide precautionary measures to limit delayed mortality resulting from stress when handling fish.
  - a.** Sample rates should not exceed 25% unless collecting fish for research when temperatures are less than 70°F.
  - b.** Personnel conducting research or monitoring must be present at the facility to monitor the separator bars for debris and stranded fish.
  - c.** The Corps reserves the right to terminate trapping operations at any time.
  
- 2. General requirements for JMF users.** All personnel conducting research or monitoring in the JMF will implement the following requirements.
  - a.** Users must have appropriate documentation for conducting research at the dam. (*See Guide for Researchers at Bonneville Dam*).
  - b.** Users must have valid state and federal permits that cover all listed species passing the project during the trapping period and users shall comply with all fish handling conditions in the permit. Note: If permit conditions are more restrictive than the following protocols, users must follow permit conditions.
  - c.** Users will be trained in the proper operation of the Juvenile Monitoring Facility to insure fish and personnel safety. Users may request training through the Project Biologists.
  - d.** Hard hats are to be worn outside at all times.
  - e.** Long pants or raingear are to be worn at all times. Shorts will not be permitted in the lab.
  - f.** Steel-toed shoes or rubber boots are to be worn at all times. No tennis shoes or sandals will be permitted.
  - g.** If users supply project biologists with a season schedule, it will not be necessary to notify project biologists upon arrival and departure.



- b.** Research updates and equipment or sampling trouble reports will go through the project biologists to the FPOM Coordination Team.
- c.** Research personnel will monitor the JMF continuously while in sample mode. This is to ensure proper functioning and to provide quick response to an emergency while the JMF is in sample operation.
- d.** Research personnel will perform a walk-through inspection of the entire facility (except the 2-mile transport flume) every two hours to ensure safe fish passage conditions.
  - i.** Particular attention will be paid to the following: dewatering facilities including the PDS, SDS, PDS screen cleaner system, adult transport flume, juvenile hopper, all valves and auxiliary water systems, flushing water systems and their perforated plates, all gates including switch and diverter gates, PIT tag detectors, and all monitoring building systems including holding tanks, valves, and conduits to prevent injury and/or mortality to passing fish.
- e.** Personnel will also observe video monitors at least every half hour or continually, and inspect manually every two hours or more frequently according to trash sweep operation or other debris potential.
- f.** Personnel shall monitor kelt passage over the separator.
- g.** Sampling shall cease when temperatures meet or exceed 70°F.
  - i.** Sampling may resume when temperatures drop below 69.5°F.
  - ii.** Project Biologists will use the Corps temperature probe reading as the official temperature.
  - iii.** Temperatures are taken in the general holding tank and are both instantaneous readings and 0000 to 2400 daily averages.
- h.** These temperature criteria are what Bonneville Project considers to be the most appropriate for protecting threatened and endangered species. If there is a need to sample at temperatures above 70°F, coordination with FPOM will be initiated by the researcher.

4. Operation in bypass mode, or when PDS monitors are not present.
  - a. The upper switchgate will be in bypass mode.
  - b. The Emergency fish release valve will be open.
  - c. All rotating gates will be set to bypass.
  - d. The bypass flume gate will be raised.
  - e. Project Biologists will inspect the facility daily.
  
5. System failures
  - a. Any system failure or abnormality will be reported to a project biologist immediately. If a project biologist is unavailable, the control room will be contacted at ext. 2221 or 2222.
  - b. If a high or low water situation occurs in the PDS area-
    - i. Contact the control room immediately.
    - ii. Switch the upper switchgate to bypass mode until the problem is corrected.
    - iii. Immediately open the emergency fish release valve
    - iv. Raise bypass flume gate. **DO NOT ADJUST ANY WEIRS.**
  - c. If a monitoring facility failure occurs,
    - i. Open the emergency fish release valve.
    - ii. Switch the upper switchgate to bypass mode until the problem is corrected.
    - iii. Raise the bypass flume gate.
    - iv. Begin fish salvage operations.
  - d. If a lower switchgate failure occurs that results in releasing to the wrong high or low outfall and repairs can not be made within 24 hours, the special operation will be coordinated through FPOM.
  - e. If a problem with either the 2 way or 3 way rotating gates (e.g. stuck open or partially open) is discovered, the response protocol should be as follows:
    - i. Switch the upper switchgate to bypass.
    - ii. Open the emergency fish release valve.
    - iii. Turn off the air to the rotating gate and manually rotate the half-round pipe section to the bypass position.
    - iv. Inspect the affected areas for stranded fish and return them to the flume. Dead fish should be held in a bucket for processing by research personnel.

- v. Contact the project biologist, or if that is not possible, the control room operator. Project personnel will request maintenance crews. Repairs should commence within 4 hours of discovering the problem.
- vi. Once all fish safety issues have been addressed and repair requests made, the problem should be thoroughly documented in writing and that information e-mailed to Project biologists prior to sending to other interested parties.